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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/034,550	12/28/2001	Kenichi Hashizume	4925-200	1402

7590 05/31/2006

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EXAMINER

COLE, ELIZABETH M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1771

DATE MAILED: 05/31/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/034,550

Applicant(s)

HASHIZUME ET AL.

Examiner

Elizabeth M. Cole

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-11, 16, 17, 34-38 and 41-45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-11, 16-17, 34-38, 41-45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
* Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

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1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 3/17/06 has been entered.
2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
3. Claims 2, 4-11, 16-17, 34-38, 41-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2000176964 in view of "What is injection molding", Intelligent systems Laboratory and in view of JP 05050433 for the reasons set forth in paragraph 1 of the previous office action. With regard to the new limitations that the reinforcing core is multidimensional, the reinforcing core of JP '964 would necessarily be multidimensional since it would have a length, a width and a thickness.
4. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP '964 in view of "What is Injection Molding" and JP '433 as applied to claims above, and further in view of Bompard et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,484,642 for the reasons set forth in paragraph 2 of the previous action.
5. Claims 2, 4-11, 16-17, 34-38, 41-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2000176964 in view of "What is injection molding", Intelligent systems Laboratory, JP 05050433 for the reasons set forth in paragraph 1 of the previous office action and further in view of GB 2,323,322. With regard to the new

limitations that the reinforcing core is multidimensional, the reinforcing core of JP '964 would necessarily be multidimensional since it would have a length, a width and a thickness. Additionally, GB '322 teaches a fibrous reinforcement for use in injection molding wherein the fibrous reinforcement can be shaped into a curved shape by injection molding. See figures. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have had the reinforcement of JP '433 have a curved shape if a curved shape was desired in the finished article, motivated by the teaching of GB '322 that the fibrous reinforcement in injection molded articles desirably are shaped in concert with the shape of the material that the fibrous reinforcement is reinforcing.

6. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP '964 in view of "What is Injection Molding", JP '433 and GB'322 as applied to claims above, and further in view of Bompard et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,484,642 for the reasons set forth in paragraph 2 of the previous action.

7. Applicant's arguments filed 3/17/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that the process limitations impart a distinctive structural characteristic to the final product. However, Applicant has not provided any evidence which compares the claimed product to the product of the prior art. Applicant asserts that the specification states that preliminary forming imparts increased strength to the material, but this statement does not compare the claimed invention to the prior art product.

8. Applicant argues that none of the cited art recites a multi-dimensional reinforcing core. However, the reinforcing materials in the applied prior art would have to be

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multidimensional since those materials have a length, width and thickness. Any reinforcement has to be three dimensional since any actual material is three dimensional.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elizabeth M. Cole whose telephone number is (571) 272-1475. The examiner may be reached between 6:30 AM and 6:00 PM Monday through Wednesday, and 6:30 AM and 2 PM on Thursday.

Mr. Terrel Morris, the examiner's supervisor, may be reached at (571) 272-1478.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

The fax number for all official faxes is (571) 273-8300.


Elizabeth M. Cole
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1771

e.m.c